

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An electrical stimulation device for treatment of the heart comprising:

a canister containing circuitry for sensing and treating a heart rhythm irregularity, the canister sized and adapted for implantation to a patient; and

a lead assembly coupled to the canister, the lead assembly having:

a lead having proximal and distal ends, the proximal end adapted to be received by the canister, the distal end including an electrode assembly; and

an electrode assembly having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end secured to the lead, the electrode assembly including an electrode surface for delivering shocking energy to the patient and an opening for receiving an insertion tool; wherein:

the opening faces proximally relative to the electrode assembly;

the electrode assembly has a front side and a back side, wherein the electrode surface is disposed on the front side and the opening is disposed on the back side, the opening leading into a pocket defined by a piece of material secured to the back side and having a closed distal portion; and

the electrode assembly further comprises a fin secured to the back side, the fin disposed with respect to the piece of material to at least partially define the opening.

2-5. (cancelled).

6. (original) The device of claim 1, wherein the electrode assembly includes an electrode and a molded cover, the molded cover having a front side and a back side, the front side adapted to define an electrode opening, wherein the electrode is disposed in the molded cover, the molded cover including a skirt portion extending around and over a portion of the electrode to define the electrode opening and cover the edges of the electrode.

7. (original) The device of claim 6, wherein the electrode assembly further includes stitching securing the electrode between the skirt portion of the molded cover and the back side of the molded cover.

8. (original) The device of claim 6, further comprising a piece of material secured to the molded cover and defining the opening.

9. (original) The device of claim 8, wherein the piece of material defines the opening on the back side of the molded cover.

10-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A lead assembly comprising:

an electrode assembly; and

an elongated lead having a first end including a connector and a second end secured to the electrode assembly; wherein the electrode assembly includes:

an electrode having at least one outside edge;

a molded cover, the molded cover having a back portion and a skirt portion, the skirt portion and back portion composed of one piece of material; and

means for receiving an insertion tool secured to the molded cover;

wherein:

the electrode assembly is configured such that the electrode is received by the molded cover to define an electrode surface surrounded by the skirt, the molded cover receiving and isolating the outside edge of the electrode;

the means for receiving an insertion tool comprises a piece of material secured to the back portion of the molded cover; and

the molded cover is secured to or formed with a fin on the back portion, the piece of material being secured over the fin.

13-20. (cancelled).

21. (previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the electrode assembly has a front side and a back side, wherein the electrode surface is disposed on the front side and the opening is disposed on the back side, and the front side of the electrode assembly is configured for sliding implantation over a patient's ribcage.

22. (previously presented) The lead assembly of claim 12 wherein the electrode assembly has a front side and a back side, wherein the electrode surface is disposed on the front side and the means for receiving an insertion tool is disposed on the back side, and the front side of the electrode assembly is configured for sliding implantation over a patient's ribcage.